

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

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R 151010Z JUN 77

FM AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6208

INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 JOHANNESBURG 1517

CAPE TOWN ALSO FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, SF

SUBJECT:PRESS REPORT: THE CITIZEN REPORTS ON US-SA

1. THE CITIZEN, JOHANNESBURG, WEDNESDAY JUNE 15, UNDER THE
BY-LINE AIDA PARKER CONTINUES, AS PART 3, ITS SERIES ON THE
SECRET US WAR AGAINST SA, AS FOLLOWS QUOTE

BLACK POWER 'IMPORTED' DELIBERATELY FROM US.
THE GREATEST TRAGEDY FACING SOUTH AFRICA TODAY IS BLACK POWER
WHICH HAS BEEN BEHIND SOME OF SOUTH AFRICA'S WORST DISTURBANCES.
IT IS THE TIME BOMB TICKING AWAY AS WE APPROACH " BLACK
CHRISTMAS" - TOMORROW'S ANNIVERSARY OF THE START OF THE SOWETO
RIOTS.
MILLIONS OF WORDS HAVE BEEN SAID AND WRITTEN ABOUT BLACK POWER.
BUT WHO ASKS HOW THIS RADICAL PHILOSOPHY CAME HERE, WHO WAS
RESPONSIBLE FOR ESTABLISHING IT, WHO STILL CONTRIBUTES THE FUNDS
THAT KEEP THE FLAME ALIVE?
MOST WHITES AND CERTAINLY EVERY BLACK, INCLUDING THE LEADERS
OF THE CONSTANTLY PROLIFERATING BLACK CONSCIOUSNESS MOVEMENTS,
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FIRMLY BELIEVE BLACK POWER TO BE A HOME-GROWN, GRASS ROOTS
MANIFESTATION, THE NATURAL DESIRE OF THIS NATION'S BLACK
PEOPLE TO DEVELOP A PRIDE IN THEIR OWN LANGUAGE, HISTORY,
CULTURE, ABILITY AND AWARENESS OF THEIR OWN RACIAL IDENTITY.
THESE ARE POSTIVE IDEALS FOR ANY GROUP OF PEOPLE. FEW WOULD
QUARREL WITH THEM. THEY ARE ESSENTIAL TO THE WHOLE SEPARATE
DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT.

IMPORTED.

BUT INVESTIGATION SHOWS:

BLACK POWER IS BY NO MEANS A NATURAL-BORN SOUTH AFRICAN PHENOMENA.

IT WAS DELIBERATLY IMPORTED FROM THE US.

IT WAS CYNICALLY INTRODUCED AS A MEANS OF INFLAMMING RACIALISTIC PASSIONS AND CREATING A BLACK-WHITE POLARISATION, " TO ACHIEVE SOCIAL CHANGE IN THE PRESENT FACTUAL SITUATION". IN OTHER WORDS, TO BRING ABOUT CONFRONTATION OR "BLACK BLITZKRIEG".

BLACK POWER MOVEMENTS OVER THE YEARS HAVE RECEIVED HEFTY FUNDING FROM VARIOUS ORGANISATIONS. MOST PROMINENT ARE THE AMERICAN-BASED LAWYERS' COMMITTEE AND THE INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY EXCHANGE FUND.

PRECISELY HOW MUCH MONEY THESE TWO GROUPS CHANNEL INTO SOUTH AFRICA IN SUPPORT OF BLACK MOVEMENTS IS UNKNOWN. THE IUEF LAST YEAR HAD DECLARED BUDGET OF ABOUT R3-MILLION. ABOUT 50 PERCENT, IS BELIEVED TO HAVE COME INTO THE REPUBLIC FOR VARIOUS BLACK PURPOSES.

THERE ARE CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING BOTH THESE ORGANISATIONS AND PERSONS INVOLVED WITH THEIR ACTIVITIES SUGGESTING THAT THEY ARE CONDUITS FOR CIA AND OTHER US GOVERNMENT FUNDS.

PUPPETS

EXPERTS FAMILIAR WITH THE SITUATION CLAIM THAT THOSE BLACK STUDENT MILITANTS WILLING TO RISK THEIR LIVES AND SAFETY FOR THE SAKE OF WHAT THEY BELIEVE TO BE AN INDIGENOUS BLACK POWER MOVEMENT ARE UNSUSPECTING PUPPETS IN AN INTERNATIONAL BIG POWER GAME AIMED AT DISRUPTING SOUTH AFRICA.

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SOUTH AFRICAN BLACK POWER, AS EXPRESSED, FOR EXAMPLE, IN THE CONSTITUTION OF SASO (SA STUDENTS' ORGANISATION), IS BASED ENTIRELY ON THE THEORIES AND CONCEPTS OF STOKELY CARMICHAEL AND PROFESSOR CHARLES V. HAMILTON, FORMERLY POLITICAL SCIENCE CHAIRMAN AT CHICAGO'S ROOSEVELT UNIVERSITY, IN THEIR BOOK, "BLACK POWER".

ACCORDING TO THE SCHLEBUSH COMMISSION, " BLACK POWER" OPERATES ON THE THESIS THAT THE BLACK MAN CAN ONLY ACHIEVE FULL FREEDOM THROUGH REVOLUTION.

A NEWSWEEK REVIEW ON " BLACK POWER" COMMENTED:

" THE RUMBLE IN THE REVOLUTIONARY REFRAIN IS EVER PRESENT...

" IT STRIKES ME AS ANOTHER FUTILE GRASPING AT INSTANT ADVANCEMENT, SUGGESTING THAT COME-THE-REVOLUTION SOME KIND OF MAGICAL TRANSFORMATION WILL HAVE TAKEN PLACE AMONG THE BLACK MASSES, MAKING THEM PERFECTLY CAPABLE OF MAINTAINING A COMPLEX SOCIETY AND ECONOMY. THERE IS ... SOME ROOM FOR DOUBT ABOUT THIS".

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MEIN KAMPF

"WHILE ONE CAN SYMPATHISE STRONGLY WITH APPEALS TO BLACK PEOPLE
EN BLOC TO WAKE UP AND FIND THEIR VOICE AND STRENGTH, AS A
MANIFESTO BLACK POWERE HAS THE RING OF OTHER FAMILIAR MANIFESTOS-
SUCH AS MEIN KAMPF, MAO'S THOUGHTS OR THAT WRITTEN BY MARX
AND ENGELS- WHICH SHOOK THE WORLD, TO BE SURE, BUT ALWAYS
AT THE COST OF MILLIONS OF LIVES".
IN CERTAIN SPECIFIC WAYS, IT APPEARS THAT " BLACK POWER" WAS
WRITTEN WITH ONE EYE ON SOUTH AFRICA, ACCORDING TO SOME EXPERT
OPINIONS.
AGAIN QUOTING FROM THE BOOK AS LAID OUT IN THE SCHLEBUSH
COMMISSION REPORT: " WE SEE OUR STRUGGLE AS CLOSELY RELATED TO
LIBERATION STRUGGLES AROUND THE WORLD. WE MUST HOOK UP WITH THESE
STRUGGLES. WE MUST, FOR EXAMPLE ASK OURSELVES: WHEN BLACK
PEOPLE IN SOUTH AFRICA BEGIN TO STORM JOHANNESBURG, WHAT WILL
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BE THE ROLE OF THIS NATION - AND OF BLACK PEOPLE HERE?"
BLACK POWERE WAS INTRODUCED TO SOUTH AFRICA THROUGH THE UNIV

-ERSITY CHRISTIAN MOVEMENT, A GROUP FORMED HERE IN SEPTEMBER OR OCTOBER, 1966. UCM'S MAIN FUNDING CAME FROM THE US NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES, FREQUENTLY ACCUSED AT THAT TIME OF BEING A CIA CONDUIT, AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS INCLUDING THE WORLD STUDENT CHRISTIAN FUND, THE JUNIOR DIVISION OF THE WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES.

MAIN ACTIVIST IN THE LAUNCHING PROGRAMME HERE WAS AN AMERICAN CLERGYMAN, THE REV W H ("HANK") CRANE.

UCM WAS ALSO ACTIVE IN PROMOTING BLACK THEOLOGY AND BLACK CONSCIOUSNESS. BLACK THEOLOGY IS THE THEOLOGICAL COUNTERPART TO BLACK POWER. BLACK THEOLOGY IS BUILT ON VIOLENCE AND SEEKS TO PORTRAY CHRIST AS A REVOLUTIONARY WHO WAS NOT AVERSE TO THE USE OF VIOLENCE AGAINST THOSE IN AUTHORITY IN THE STATE.

THREAD.

IT WAS AT A UCM CONFERENCE IN STUTTERHEIM IN JULY, 1968, THAT THE FIRST " BLACK CAUCUS" WAS FORMED, THE PRECURSOR TO THE BLACK STUDENT ORGANISATION, SASO. OVER THE NEXT FEW YEARS THE THEME OF BLACK POWER RAN LIKE A THREAD THROUGH ALL UCM CONFERENCES. AS SEEN IN THE HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE, THE WHOLE UCM PROGRAMME WAS PART OF A CAREFULLY WORKED OUT PLAN TO FAMILIARISE THE BLACK MAN IN THE REPUBLIC WITH THE IDEA OF BLACK POWER WHICH. TILL THEN, HAD FOR ALL INTENTS AND PURPOSES BEEN UNKNOWN IN THIS COUNTRY - AND HAD, INDEED, ONLY RECENTLY BEEN INTRODUCED IN THE US.

THE CONCEPT OF BLACK POWER, AS EXPLAINED IN UCM'S OWN DOCUMENTS BY ITS OWN LEADERS, DEMANDED A POLARISATION BETWEEN BLACKS AND WHITES IN ORDER TO BRING ABOUT A CONFRONTATION.

THE NATURE OF THIS CONFRONTATION WAS NEVER SPELT OUT IN SO MANY WORDS, BUT THE INSISTENT DEMAND THAT THERE BE NO WHITE PEOPLE IN " BLACK ORGANISATIONS" SUCH AS SASO AND SIMILAR GROUPS WAS BASED ON THE CLAIM THAT THE ABSENCE OF WHITES " WOULD INCREASE THE MILITANCY OF BLACKS".

TO QUOTE THE SCHLEBUSH COMMISSION: " THE CONFRONTATION WAS UNCLASSIFIED

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THEREFORE CLEARLY ONE IN WHICH A 'MILITANT' GROUP OF BLACKS WAS TO BE ARRAYED AGAINST WHITES IN WHOM, THROUGH "WHITE CONSCIOUSNESS", A SENSE OF GUILT HAD BEEN ESTABLISHED..."

THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THIS " SENSE OF WHITE GUILT" WAS ONE OF THE MAIN OBJECTIVES OF " SENSITIVITY", OR GROUP DYNAMIC, PROGRAMMES AT WILGESPRUIT AND ELSEWHERE. IT WAS ALSO HEAVILY INCULCATED INTO THE WHITES BY A LONG AND CONSISTENT RUN OF NEGATIVE REPORTING ON MATTERS RELATING TO SOUTH AFRICAN RACIAL AFFAIRS.

UCM WAS FINALLY DISSOLVED IN SOUTH AFRICA ON JULY 11, 1972, FOR TWO REASONS:

1. IT WAS BEING INVESTIGATED BY A GOVERNMENT COMMISSION OF INQUIRY.
2. IT HAD FULFILLED ITS PURPOSE, HAVING GIVEN BIRTH TO SASO.

NO SUPPORT.

EVEN TODAY THE LIFE AND TIMES OF UCM GIVE RISE TO SOME STRANGE QUESTIONS.

ALMOST TO THE END IT WAS UNCRITICALLY ACCEPTED BY MANY CHURCHES AND A LARGE PART OF THE ENGLISH PRESS IN SOUTH AFRICA AS A GENUINE CAMPUS-BASED MOVEMENT, THOUGH FOREIGNERS WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR INTRODUCING IT INTO THE COUNTRY AND AT NO TIME DID UCM GAIN ANY NOTICEABLE BONA FIDE STUDENT SUPPORT.

UCM CONTRIBUTIONS FROM BONA FIDE SOUTH AFRICAN STUDENTS WERE MEAGRE INDEED.

UCMS' 1970 BUDGET SHOWS THAT STUDENT CONTRIBUTIONS IN THE PREVIOUS FINANCIAL YEAR TOTALLED R200 OUT OF A TOTAL (EXPECTED) R24 000. MOST OF THE FUNDING CAME FROM A VARIETY OF US AND EUROPEAN CHURCH GROUPS.

A LAWYER SAYS THIS INDICATES A SERIOUS BREAKDOWN IN SOUTH AFRICAN INVESTIGATIVE REPORTING AT THAT TIME. THE MOST SUPERFICIAL EXAMINATION WOULD HAVE SHOWN UCM TO BE A "PLANT" ORGANISATION. IT IS PERHAPS INTERESTING TO NOTE THAT AFTER UCM HAD DONE ITS JOB IN TRANSPOSING AMERICAN BLACK POWER INTO SOUTH AFRICA, THE FORD FOUNDATION, AN ESTABLISHMENT ORGANISATION WITH POWERFUL US GOVERNMENT LINKS, ESTABLISHED A TEN-YEAR PROFESSORSHIP AT THE HIGHLY REPUTABLE COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY. ENCUMBENT OF THIS CHAIR UNCLASSIFIED

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IS PROFESSOR HAMILTON, CO AUTHOR OF "BLACK POWER". EQUALLY INTERESTING AND PERHAPS EQUALLY COINCIDENTAL, STOKELY CARMICHAEL WAS (ACCORDING TO US NEWS REPORTS) LATER EXPELLED FROM THE US BLACK POWER MOVEMENT ON SUSPICION OF BEING A CIA AGENT. CARMICHAEL IS MARRIED TO TALENTED SOUTH AFRICAN SINGING STAR MIRIAM MAKEBA, WHICH WOULD ACCOUNT FOR HIS INTEREST IN THIS REGION.

MANY SASO LEADERS ARE KNOWN TO BE UNHAPPY ABOUT AMERICAN INTERFERENCE IN SOUTH AFRICAN BLACK AFFAIRS AND ARE SUSPICIOUS ABOUT THE SOURCE OF LARGE FUNDS PROVIDED FOR BLACK MOVEMENTS. UNQUOTE. KIRBY

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